

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - May 2011

Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
IOWA, Northeast				
CLAYTON COUNTY --- 0.7 NNE MC GREGOR [43.03, -91.17], 0.6 NE MC GREGOR [43.03, -91.17], 0.5 NE MC GREGOR [43.02, -91.17], 0.6 ENE MC GREGOR [43.02, -91.17], 0.8 NNE MC GREGOR [43.03, -91.17]				
	05/03/11 18:00 CST		0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain / Snow Melt)
	05/05/11 04:00 CST		0	Source: River/Stream Gage
Heavy rain and snow in April pushed another wave of high water down the Mississippi River. The river exceeded the flood stage at McGregor from the evening of the 3rd into the early morning of the 5th. The river crested just over the flood stage at 16.03 feet during the afternoon of the 4th.				
A round of heavy rain and snow in April pushed another wave of high water down the Mississippi River. The river exceeded the flood stage at McGregor for a short period in early May.				
HOWARD COUNTY --- 3.9 NE RICEVILLE [43.41, -92.49], 3.9 NNE LIME SPGS [43.50, -92.25]				
	05/22/11 13:33 CST		0.53M	Tornado (EF2, L: 13.88 mi , W: 250 yd)
	05/22/11 14:05 CST	3	0	Source: NWS Storm Survey
This tornado first caused some damage about 3 miles north of State Highway 9 north of Riceville. The tornado almost immediately strengthen to EF1 as it moved northeast. Several farms had outbuildings destroyed, widespread tree damage occurred and several homes had partial or complete roof damage. As the tornado passed south of Chester, it increased to its maximum width and strength. The tornado remained at EF2 strength as it crossed the state line into Fillmore County Minnesota. The tornado passed through rural portions of the county affecting around a dozen farms with only three minor injuries occurring. Around 850 customers were loss power as a result of the storms. Damages were estimated to be around \$500 thousand.				
FAYETTE COUNTY --- 5.9 N WESTGATE [42.86, -92.01], 0.9 ENE RANDALIA [42.88, -91.85]				
	05/22/11 14:37 CST		0.18M	Tornado (EF1, L: 7.87 mi , W: 70 yd)
	05/22/11 14:45 CST		0	Source: NWS Storm Survey
This was the first of two tornadoes to hit Fayette County. This tornado tracked east-northeast across the western part of the county. The tornado snapped off or uprooted numerous trees and damaged several homes, barns and grain bins.				
FAYETTE COUNTY --- 1.7 SE WEST UNION [42.95, -91.78]				
	05/22/11 14:43 CST		65K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 60 kt)
	05/22/11 14:43 CST		0	Source: Newspaper
A fifth wheel camper was picked up and turned upside down by straight line winds from a severe thunderstorm. The winds also partially removed the metal roof off a large machine shed. Golf ball sized hail also fell that broke the siding on a house.				
FAYETTE COUNTY --- 2.8 NW BRAINARD [42.96, -91.73], 2.5 N BRAINARD [42.97, -91.70]				
	05/22/11 15:01 CST		10K	Tornado (EF0, L: 1.38 mi , W: 50 yd)
	05/22/11 15:03 CST		0	Source: NWS Storm Survey
This was the second tornado to affect Fayette County. It was only in the ground for a couple of minutes as it crossed over County Road B64 between West Union and Elgin. For the short time the tornado was on the ground, it caused some roofing damage to a home and barn and snapped off several trees.				
FAYETTE COUNTY --- 1.9 NNE BRAINARD [42.95, -91.69], 0.4 W CLERMONT VLY ARPT [42.98, -91.66]				
	05/22/11 15:05 CST		15K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 60 kt)
	05/22/11 15:07 CST		0	Source: NWS Storm Survey
A swath of wind damage was found northwest of Elgin where several trees were blown down. A barn was also pushed over and a silo was damaged by the high winds.				
FAYETTE COUNTY --- 2.1 SSW ELGIN [42.92, -91.64]				
	05/22/11 15:22 CST		0	Hail (1.75 in)
	05/22/11 15:22 CST		0	Source: Trained Spotter
FAYETTE COUNTY --- 0.7 N ELGIN [42.96, -91.63]				
	05/22/11 15:24 CST		0	Hail (1.50 in)
	05/22/11 15:24 CST		0	Source: Public
FAYETTE COUNTY --- 0.9 NW WADENA [42.84, -91.66]				

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	05/22/11 15:42 CST		0	Funnel Cloud
	05/22/11 15:42 CST		0	Source: Emergency Manager

During the afternoon of May 22nd, severe thunderstorms developed along a cold front as it moved through northeast Iowa. These severe thunderstorms produced three confirmed tornadoes. The first tornado occurred in Howard County and was rated an EF2. The second (EF1) and third (EF0) tornadoes both occurred in Fayette County. Significant damage occurred between Chester (Howard County) and Lime Springs (Howard County) where several farms had buildings completely destroyed or significantly damaged. Three minor injuries occurred with the Howard County tornado. Around 850 customers were without power after the storms moved through in Howard County. Damages were estimated to be almost \$700 thousand.



Photo of tornado near Chester, Iowa (Howard County) around 2:51 p.m. CDT, taken by Shaun Kelly.

MINNESOTA, Southeast

WABASHA COUNTY --- 0.4 NNW READS LNDG [44.41, -92.08], 1.1 NW WABASHA [44.39, -92.05], 0.5 ESE WABASHA [44.38, -92.02], 0.6 E WABASHA [44.38, -92.02], 1.3 NW WABASHA [44.39, -92.05], 1.0 ENE READS LNDG [44.40, -92.06]		
05/01/11 00:00 CST	0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain / Snow Melt)
05/01/11 20:00 CST	0	Source: River/Stream Gage

Flooding that began in late April came to an end during the evening of May 1st. The river crested just over the flood stage at 12.04 feet during the morning of the 1st.

Heavy rain and snow in April brought renewed flooding to the Mississippi River at Wabasha, Minnesota. The river went above flood stage in late April with the flooding ending on May 1st.

DODGE COUNTY --- 1.2 NE HAYFIELD [43.89, -92.85]

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Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
	05/22/11 12:53 CST		0	Hail (1.00 in)
	05/22/11 12:53 CST		0	Source: Public

DODGE COUNTY --- 1.0 W KASSON [44.03, -92.77]

05/22/11 13:08 CST	0	Hail (0.88 in)
05/22/11 13:08 CST	0	Source: Trained Spotter

FILLMORE COUNTY --- 2.3 SSE YORK [43.50, -92.25], 2.5 SW HENRYTOWN [43.58, -91.97]

05/22/11 14:05 CST	0.25M	Tornado (EF2, L: 14.80 mi , W: 225 yd)
05/22/11 14:29 CST	0	Source: NWS Storm Survey

This tornado moved into Fillmore County, west of Granger, shortly after 2 p.m. and continued to track northeast until dissipating northeast of Harmony. The worst damage from this tornado occurred southwest and west of Harmony where two farm silos were damaged and roofs were taken off structures. Damages were estimated to be around \$250 thousand.

HOUSTON COUNTY --- 1.3 SSE SHELTON [43.66, -91.59], 3.9 E SHELTON [43.69, -91.52]

05/22/11 14:58 CST	5K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 55 kt)
05/22/11 15:01 CST	0	Source: NWS Storm Survey

An almost 4 mile long path of wind damage was found between Caledonia and Houston. The damage started in the northern part of Beaver Creek Valley State Park and continued northeast to near the intersection of State Highway 76 and Haute Ridge Road. Numerous trees were blown down in this damage path.

HOUSTON COUNTY --- 2.7 S MOUND PRAIRIE [43.74, -91.46], 3.1 SSE LA CRESCENT [43.79, -91.26]

05/22/11 15:05 CST	0.24M	Tornado (EF2, L: 10.44 mi , W: 150 yd)
05/22/11 15:20 CST	0	Source: NWS Storm Survey

This EF2 tornado cut a path across northeast Houston County from around 5 miles southwest of Hokah, through the very southern part of Hokah to the Target Lake area southeast of La Crescent, before crossing the Mississippi River. Near the beginning of the track, significant damage to some residences, barns and farm out buildings occurred. In the same area, numerous 100 foot tall and 3 foot diameter trees were either uprooted or snapped off. Around a mile west of Hokah, 2 barns were significantly damaged and a residence received minor damage. Some minor roof damage and extensive tree damage was done on the south side of the town of Hokah. Tree damage was noted east of Hokah into the Mississippi River. Damages from the tornado were estimated to be almost \$250 thousand.

HOUSTON COUNTY --- 1.0 E CALEDONIA [43.63, -91.48]

05/22/11 15:29 CST	0	Hail (2.00 in)
05/22/11 15:29 CST	0	Source: NWS Employee

During the afternoon of May 22nd, severe thunderstorms developed along a cold front as it moved through southeast Minnesota. These severe thunderstorms produced two confirmed tornadoes, both of which were rated as EF2. The first tornado moved into Fillmore County from northeast Iowa and the second tornado occurred over eastern Houston County before crossing the Mississippi River into western Wisconsin. The first tornado produced significant damage around Harmony (Fillmore County) where silos were damaged and roofs taken off structures. The second tornado produced damage around Hokah (Houston County) with barns and other farm buildings damaged along with several residences. Around 4,500 customers loss power across Fillmore and Houston Counties. Damages across southeast Minnesota were estimated to be between \$400 and \$500 thousand.

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Photo of tornado just west of Harmony, MN (Fillmore County), taken by Heather Miner.

WISCONSIN, Southwest

(WI-Z029) CLARK

05/09/11 13:00 CST	9K	High Wind (MAX 56 kt)
05/09/11 13:20 CST	0	

High winds produced by an outflow from a thunderstorm uprooted trees near Neillsville and Willard in Clark County.

MONROE COUNTY --- 2.1 ESE TOMAH BLOYER FLD ARP [43.97, -90.44]

05/11/11 13:01 CST	10K	Hail (1.75 in)
05/11/11 13:01 CST	0	Source: Law Enforcement

Hail ranging in size from ping pong to golf ball created damage to police cars east-southeast of Tomah on State Highway 16.

MONROE COUNTY --- 2.5 SW WATERMILL [44.02, -90.50]

05/11/11 13:12 CST	0	Hail (0.75 in)
05/11/11 13:12 CST	0	Source: Trained Spotter

Dime size hail fell at the intersection of State Highway 21 and Interstate 94.

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ADAMS COUNTY --- 4.0 ESE WHITE CREEK [43.81, -89.80]				
	05/11/11 13:37 CST		0	Hail (0.75 in)
	05/11/11 13:37 CST		0	Source: Trained Spotter
Penny size hail fell six miles north-northeast of Plainville.				
MONROE COUNTY --- 2.1 SSE MC COY AAF ARPT [43.94, -90.71]				
	05/11/11 13:56 CST		0	Hail (1.00 in)
	05/11/11 13:56 CST		0	Source: Public
A warm front remained nearly stationary across northern Iowa and northern Illinois during the afternoon hours of May 11th. Severe thunderstorms developed along and north of the warm front and produced large hail across parts of western Wisconsin. Law enforcement estimated golf ball size hail near Tomah (Monroe County) which damaged police cars.				
LA CROSSE COUNTY --- 3.0 NNW HERRINGTON [43.82, -91.19]				
	05/22/11 11:55 CST		0	Hail (0.75 in)
	05/22/11 11:55 CST		0	Source: NWS Employee
CLARK COUNTY --- 0.9 SE NEILLSVILLE [44.56, -90.59]				
	05/22/11 12:45 CST		0	Hail (0.88 in)
	05/22/11 12:45 CST		0	Source: Amateur Radio
MONROE COUNTY --- 1.3 E TOMAH BLOYER FLD ARP [43.98, -90.45]				
	05/22/11 13:02 CST		0	Hail (2.00 in)
	05/22/11 13:02 CST		0	Source: Law Enforcement
JUNEAU COUNTY --- 3.1 ESE ELROY [43.74, -90.21]				
	05/22/11 13:14 CST		0	Hail (0.88 in)
	05/22/11 13:14 CST		0	Source: Public
JUNEAU COUNTY --- 3.7 NE MAUSTON NW LSBN ARPT [43.87, -90.08]				
	05/22/11 13:30 CST		0	Hail (1.25 in)
	05/22/11 13:30 CST		0	Source: Amateur Radio
JUNEAU COUNTY --- 2.3 NNE LEMONWEIR [43.81, -90.00]				
	05/22/11 13:44 CST		25K	Hail (2.75 in)
	05/22/11 13:44 CST		0	Source: Emergency Manager
Up to baseball sized hail fell just east of Mauston.				
ADAMS COUNTY --- BIG FLATS [44.12, -89.80]				
	05/22/11 13:52 CST		0	Hail (1.00 in)
	05/22/11 13:52 CST		0	Source: Public
ADAMS COUNTY --- FRIENDSHIP [43.97, -89.82]				
	05/22/11 14:02 CST		3K	Hail (1.25 in)
	05/22/11 14:02 CST		0	Source: Public
Several car windshields were cracked by the hail.				
LA CROSSE COUNTY --- 0.9 SSW LA CROSSE [43.79, -91.26], 1.4 NNW HERRINGTON [43.80, -91.19]				
	05/22/11 15:20 CST		15.20M	Tornado (EF2, L: 3.35 mi , W: 125 yd)
	05/22/11 15:28 CST		0	Source: NWS Storm Survey

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<p>This tornado originally began in Houston County Minnesota and crossed into La Crosse near Target Lake. The first damage occurred on Green Island where numerous mature trees were snapped off and substantial damage occurred to the Green Island ice arena. The tornado then moved into a residential area where buildings sustained partial roof removal and garages were heavily damaged. Buildings in a small industrial area near the intersection of Green Bay Street and West Ave had walls partially collapse causing the roofs to subsequently collapse and a small apartment complex had its roof cleanly removed. After this, the tornado tracked primarily through residential areas until it dissipated causing mainly tree damage and light structural damage to homes and garages. An estimated 200 homes and businesses were damaged, 9 homes were destroyed and another 6 buildings condemned and uninhabitable. An emergency shelter was set up where up to 40 people sought refuge at times with 14 spending the night. This tornado was the first to hit the city of La Crosse since 1966 when a tornado moved across the airport. Total damages were estimated to be just over \$15 million. An estimated 6,300 customers lost power as a result of the tornado. There was not a single ambulance call right after the tornado, but some did occur during the following days during clean up.</p>				
LA CROSSE COUNTY --- 0.9 ESE LA CROSSE [43.80, -91.23]				
	05/22/11 15:26 CST		0	Thunderstorm Wind (MG 76 kt)
	05/22/11 15:26 CST		0	Source: Amateur Radio
<p>This wind gust was measured near 16th Street and Denton in La Crosse as the tornado passed by. The anemometer is at a height of 35 feet.</p>				
LA CROSSE COUNTY --- 0.9 NE ONALASKA [43.89, -91.22]				
	05/22/11 15:27 CST		0	Hail (0.88 in)
	05/22/11 15:27 CST		0	Source: Amateur Radio
TAYLOR COUNTY --- 0.9 NW GILMAN [45.18, -90.81], 8.9 ENE JUMP RIVER [45.38, -90.62]				
	05/22/11 15:46 CST		10K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 53 kt)
	05/22/11 16:14 CST		0	Source: NWS Storm Survey
<p>A sporadic path of wind damage was found from just outside of Gilman northeast to the Taylor/Price County line near County Road N. The damage consisted of several trees blown down, some of which blocked roads, and a power pole down along Babit Avenue near Gilman.</p>				
LA CROSSE COUNTY --- 1.0 SW ROCKLAND [43.89, -90.94], 0.5 ENE ROCKLAND [43.90, -90.91]				
	05/22/11 15:47 CST		5K	Tornado (EF1, L: 1.53 mi , W: 125 yd)
	05/22/11 15:50 CST		0	Source: NWS Storm Survey
<p>For the short time this tornado was in La Crosse County, it produced mainly tree and some minor building damage. The tornado tracked from just southwest of Rockland, toward the rest stop on the eastbound side of Interstate 90 before crossing into Monroe County.</p>				
MONROE COUNTY --- 4.3 WNW LEON [43.90, -90.91], 1.8 ENE SPARTA [43.94, -90.79]				
	05/22/11 15:50 CST		0.92M	Tornado (EF1, L: 6.65 mi , W: 125 yd)
	05/22/11 16:00 CST		0	Source: NWS Storm Survey
<p>This tornado passed into Monroe county just east of Rockland (La Crosse County) and continued to the east-northeast before dissipating in the southeast portion of Sparta. Along its path, the tornado destroyed one home east of Rockland, demolished 4 mobile homes and created damage to at least 50 homes in Sparta. At a car dealership on the south side of Sparta, a car was tossed 40 feet and flipped upside down and a billboard sign was knocked over on to a truck. Total damages from this tornado are estimated to be around \$900 thousand. An estimated 200 customers lost power in Sparta as a result of this tornado.</p>				
LA CROSSE COUNTY --- 0.7 N BARRE MILLS [43.84, -91.12]				
	05/22/11 15:59 CST		0	Hail (1.00 in)
	05/22/11 15:59 CST		0	Source: Trained Spotter
TAYLOR COUNTY --- 2.5 NW HANNIBAL [45.28, -90.81]				
	05/22/11 16:00 CST		0	Funnel Cloud
	05/22/11 16:00 CST		0	Source: Fire Department/Rescue
CRAWFORD COUNTY --- EASTMAN [43.17, -91.02]				
	05/22/11 16:07 CST		35K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 50 kt)
	05/22/11 16:07 CST		0	Source: Emergency Manager
<p>A large tree was blown over onto a house. The house sustained substantial damage from the impact of the tree and the wind also blew out several windows.</p>				
MONROE COUNTY --- 3.0 N TUNNEL CITY [44.04, -90.57], 0.9 ESE NORWAY RIDGE [44.12, -90.31]				

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	05/22/11 16:15 CST		0.51M	Tornado (EF2, L: 13.55 mi , W: 100 yd)
	05/22/11 16:38 CST		0	Source: NWS Storm Survey

This tornado first developed about 4 miles northwest of Tomah. It then proceeded to move east-northeast crossing Interstate 94 north of Tomah. A house and mobile home were destroyed north of Tomah and another house was significantly damaged northeast of Tomah. The tornado then passed through mainly wooded rural areas before crossing into Juneau County southwest of Mather. Damage estimates for this tornado are just over \$500,000.

MONROE COUNTY --- 3.0 W KIRBY [44.10, -90.59]

05/22/11 16:18 CST	0	Hail (1.50 in)
05/22/11 16:18 CST	0	Source: Trained Spotter

CLARK COUNTY --- 3.7 WSW DORCHESTER [44.98, -90.40]

05/22/11 16:19 CST	0	Funnel Cloud
05/22/11 16:19 CST	0	Source: Emergency Manager

MONROE COUNTY --- 0.3 N NORWAY RIDGE [44.12, -90.33]

05/22/11 16:24 CST	0.25M	Hail (3.75 in)
05/22/11 16:24 CST	0	Source: Newspaper

Hail estimated to be between 3.5 and 4 inches in diameter was produced by the tornado producing severe thunderstorm as it moved across northeast Monroe County.

MONROE COUNTY --- NORWAY RIDGE [44.12, -90.33]

05/22/11 16:31 CST	18K	Hail (2.25 in)
05/22/11 16:34 CST	0	Source: Newspaper

Large hail fell on Highway 173 near Norway Ridge in far northeast Monroe County.

JUNEAU COUNTY --- 2.4 SSW MATHER [44.12, -90.31], 6.3 NNE NEW MINER [44.25, -89.97]

05/22/11 16:38 CST	4.40M	Tornado (EF2, L: 19.32 mi , W: 800 yd)
05/22/11 17:03 CST	0	Source: NWS Storm Survey

This tornado entered into Juneau County southwest of Mather and then tracked northeast across the Necedah Wildlife Refuge between Mather and Finley damaging numerous trees. As the tornado approached Finley, it grew in size and was nearly a half mile wide as it crossed County Road F east of Finley. In this area, numerous trees were snapped or blown down with some of them landing on nearby homes. At a cranberry business east of Finley, all of the outbuildings and sheds were demolished and tossed into nearby fields and a loading deck platform and trucks were heavily damaged. Thick wooden power poles in this area were snapped or sheared off over a half mile long stretch. The tornado then weakened as it moved northeast toward the Wood-Juneau County line with damage to trees and some minor roof and siding damage. Total damages across Juneau county from this tornado were estimated to be \$4.4 million.

RICHLAND COUNTY --- 2.2 W BASSWOOD [43.27, -90.54]

05/22/11 16:45 CST	20K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 50 kt)
05/22/11 16:45 CST	0	Source: Emergency Manager

Farm outbuildings were blown down over a road.

RICHLAND COUNTY --- 3.3 ENE BOAZ [43.35, -90.47], 0.8 SE BUCK CREEK [43.41, -90.36]

05/22/11 16:51 CST	0	Hail (1.75 in)
05/22/11 17:03 CST	0	Source: Trained Spotter

A severe thunderstorm produced hail ranging in size from a quarter up to golf ball as it tracked across central Richland County northwest of Richland Center.

RICHLAND COUNTY --- RICHLAND CENTER [43.33, -90.38]

05/22/11 16:58 CST	5K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 50 kt)
05/22/11 16:58 CST	0	Source: Emergency Manager

Extensive tree damage occurred on the east side of Richland Center.

During the afternoon of May 22nd, severe thunderstorms developed along a cold front as it moved through western Wisconsin. These severe thunderstorms produced three confirmed tornadoes, two of which were rated as EF2 with the other being an EF1. The first tornado hit the southern sections of the city of La Crosse (La Crosse County) and caused an estimated 15 million dollars in damage where almost 200 buildings were damaged including 9 homes that were destroyed. The second tornado tracked from extreme eastern

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La Crosse County into Monroe County passing through the southern portions of Sparta (Monroe County). Considerable damage occurred in Sparta with a local car dealership sustaining damage to vehicles on the sales lot. The third tornado was on the ground for almost 65 miles as it tracked from eastern Monroe County, across northern Juneau County, through southern Wood County and into Portage County before dissipating. Damage estimates for this tornado in Monroe and Juneau Counties are close to 6 million dollars with most of this occurring in Juneau County where a cranberry farm was severely damaged.



Damage to the Green Island ice arena on the south side of La Crosse. Photo taken by Dan Baumgardt, NWS La Crosse.

GRANT COUNTY --- 1.5 SSE ROCKVILLE [42.70, -90.67]

05/29/11 12:45 CST	0	Hail (0.75 in)
05/29/11 12:45 CST	0	Source: Trained Spotter

GRANT COUNTY --- 0.7 N PLATTEVILLE [42.74, -90.48]

05/29/11 12:51 CST	0	Hail (1.00 in)
05/29/11 12:51 CST	0	Source: Trained Spotter

Thunderstorms developed along a northward moving warm front during the afternoon of May 29th. A few of these storms became strong enough to produce some large hail across portions of Grant County in southwest Wisconsin.